In re Application of CONRAD et al.
Application No. 09/527,546

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A computer system performance reporting network as in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein the client module of each of the plurality of reporting clients selectively tracks a core set of system attributes.

3. (Currently Amended) A computer system performance reporting network as in claim 20 ~~1~~, further including a reporting super-server for receiving system performance data from the reporting server and summarizing the system performance data received from the reporting server to generate another ~~generating a second~~ performance report.

4. (Currently Amended) A computer system performance reporting network as in claim 20 ~~1~~, further including a data store for selectively archiving system performance data.

5. (Currently Amended) A computer system performance reporting network as in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein the plug-in module of at least one of the reporting clients is further programmed to, at least, provide data indicating a pass/fail status of a system component monitored by said at least one reporting client for inclusion in the performance report generated by the reporting server.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer system performance reporting network as in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein the plug-in module of at least one of the reporting clients is further programmed to, at least, register with the client module of said at least one reporting client an indication of how the data on the performance metrics are to be presented in the performance report generated by the reporting server.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer system performance reporting network as in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein the performance report generated by the reporting server includes a summary summarizing status of system components monitored by the reporting clients and a plurality of per-client detailed reports regarding the reporting client.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a performance report for system components of a computer system, comprising the steps of:

connecting a reporting server with a reporting client, the reporting client responsible for monitoring a system component and having a client module communicating with the reporting server and a plug-in module for use with the client module to track metrics specific to the system component, the plug-in module exporting a set of functions to the client module, the set of functions comprising:

a first function for registering the metrics specific to the system component; and

a second function for providing the metrics tracked by the plug-in module;

registering, by the first function of the plug-in module, with the client module of the reporting client, the metrics specific to the system component for reporting to the reporting server;

tracking, by the plug-in module, the metrics specific to the system component; ~~and~~

providing, by the second function of the plug-in module, data on the metrics specific to the system component to the client module of the reporting client;

passing, by the client module of the reporting client, performance data including the data on the metrics specific to the system component to the reporting server; and

generating, by the reporting server, a performance report from the performance data passed by the reporting client.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 8, further including the step of tracking by the client module of the reporting client a core set of system attributes, and wherein the performance data passed by the reporting client to the reporting server includes data on the core set of system attributes.

10. (Original) A method as in claim 9, wherein the core set of system attributes includes memory usage and event log errors.

11. (Original) A method as in claim 8, further including the step of forwarding, by the reporting server, performance data to a reporting super-server.

12. (Original) A method as in claim 8, further including the step of selectively archiving performance data in a data store.

13. (Original) A method as in claim 8, wherein the step of registering the metrics includes providing an indication of how the data on the metrics are to be presented in the performance report generated by the reporting server.

14. (Original) A method as in claim 8, wherein the data on the metrics provided by the plug-in module includes a programmatically determined pass/fail status of the system component monitored by the reporting client.

15. (Original) A method as in claim 8, further including the step of providing, by the plug-in module, non-numeric performance data concerning the system component being monitored.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps for monitoring performance of computer system components by a reporting client having a client module for communicating with a reporting server and, for each type of system component, a plug-in module for use with the client module to track performance metrics specific to the system component ~~data~~, the plug-in module exporting a set of functions to the client module, the set of functions comprising a first function for registering the metrics specific to the system component and a second function for providing the metrics tracked by the plug-in module, the steps comprising:

registering, by the first function of the plug-in module, with the client module, metrics specific to the ~~for monitoring performance of a~~ system component being tracked by the plug-in module on a host computer of the reporting client;

tracking, by the plug-in module, the metrics specific to the system component during operation of the host computer;

providing, by the second function of the plug-in module, to the client module, data on the metrics specific to the system component from the tracking; and

forwarding, by the client module of the reporting client, performance data including the data on the metrics specific to the system component to the reporting server for generating a performance report.

17. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 16, wherein the step of registering the metrics includes providing an indication of how the data on the metrics are to be presented in the performance report.

18. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 16, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the step of determining, by the plug-in module, a pass/fail status for the system component being monitored, and wherein the step of providing data on the metrics includes providing data indicating the determined pass/fail status.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium as in claim 16, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of collecting, by the client module of the reporting client, data on a core set of system attributes, and ~~providing the collected data on the core set of system attributes~~ wherein the performance data forwarded to the reporting server for generating the performance report further includes the collected data on the core set of system attributes.

20. (New) A computer system performance reporting network comprising:

a reporting server programmed to generate a performance report based on system performance data reported by a plurality of reporting clients; and

the plurality of reporting clients, each reporting client comprising:

a client module programmed to, at least, communicate with the reporting server; and

a plug-in module for the client module programmed to, at least, track a first set of performance metrics for a system component;

wherein each plug-in module of the plurality of reporting clients exports a set of functions to the client module, the set of functions comprising:

a first function for registering the first set of performance metrics with the client module; and

a second function for passing at least one of the first set of performance metrics to the client module.

21. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 20, wherein each client module of the plurality of reporting clients is further programmed to, at least, track a second set of performance metrics for the system component.

22. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 21, wherein the set of functions further comprises a third function for specifying, to the client module, at least one type of event log to be tracked to produce at least one performance metric for inclusion in the second set of performance metrics.

23. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 21, wherein the set of functions further comprises:

a third function for specifying, to the client module, at least one process resource to be tracked to produce at least one performance metric for inclusion in the second set of performance metrics; and

a fourth function for specifying, to the client module, at least one kernel resource to be tracked to produce at least one performance metric for inclusion in the second set of performance metrics.

24. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 20, wherein the set of functions further comprises a third function for registering, with the client module, an identifier for the system component associated with the first set of performance metrics.

25. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 20, wherein the set of functions further comprises a third function for invoking a dialog to set any component-specific configuration.

26. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 20, wherein the set of functions further comprises a third function for providing, to the client module, text data that the client module communicates substantially unchanged to the reporting server.

27. (New) The computer system performance reporting network of claim 20, wherein registering the first set of performance metrics with the client module comprises specifying how at least one of the set of performance metrics is to be visually presented in the performance report generated by the reporting server.